

**Asterix** and the  
**SOOTHSAYER**

by GOSCINNY and UDERZO



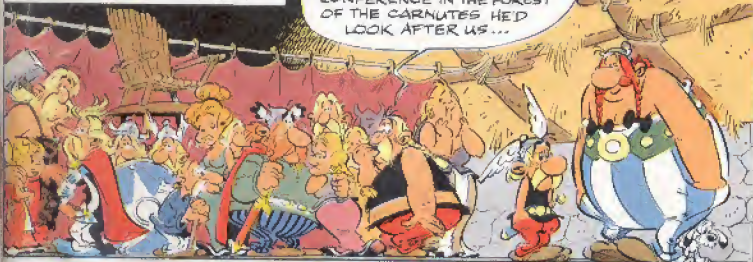
THE ONLY THING THAT THE GAULS ARE AFRAID OF IS THE SKY FALLING ON THEIR HEADS AN EVENT WHICH SEEMS IMMINENT AS A TERRIBLE STORM BATTERS THE LITTLE VILLAGE WE KNOW SO WELL.

**BRRAOM!**



ALL THE TOP PEOPLE IN THE VILLAGE HAVE GATHERED TOGETHER IN THE HOUSE OF CHIEF VITALSTATISTIX...

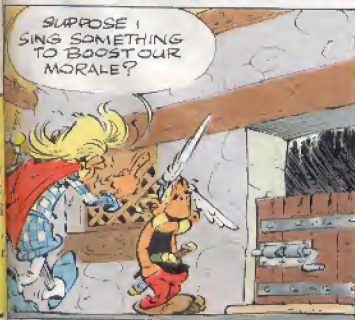
IF ONLY GETAFIX WASN'T AWAY AT THE DRUIDS' ANNUAL CONFERENCE IN THE FOREST OF THE CARNUTES HE'D LOOK AFTER US...



THERE'S NOTHING TO BE AFRAID OF! WE'VE HAD STORMS BEFORE. THIS IS QUITE ABAD ONE, I AGREE, BUT...



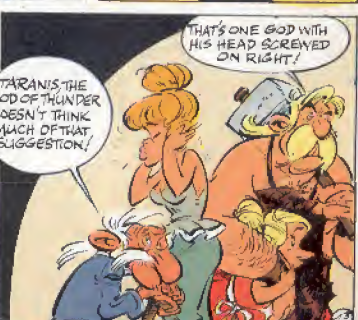
SUPPOSE I SING SOMETHING TO BOOST OUR MORALE?



**BRRAOM!**

TARANIS, THE GOD OF THUNDER DOESN'T THINK MUCH OF THAT SUGGESTION!

THAT'S ONE GOD WITH HIS HEAD SCREWED ON RIGHT!





HUH! OUR DRUID MAY BE AWAY, BUT TOUTATIS, THE GOD OF THE TRIBE, IS PROTECTING US.

MAYBE, BUT TARANIS, MIGHT WAKE UP SUCCELLUS, THE GOD OF THE DEAD!

BELLENOS, THE GOD OF HEALING, KEEPS SUCCELLUS UNDER CONTROL.

AND DON'T FORGET THAT ESUS, THE GOD OF LIFE, WORKS HAND IN GLOVE WITH SUCCELLUS!

WHAT IF EPONA, THE GODDESS OF WAR, HAS MADE TROUBLE AMONG THEM?

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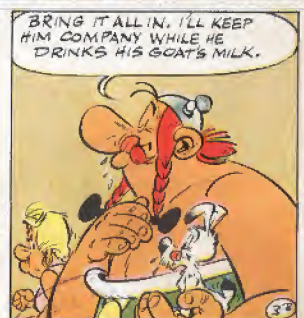
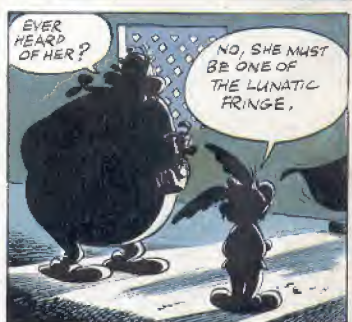
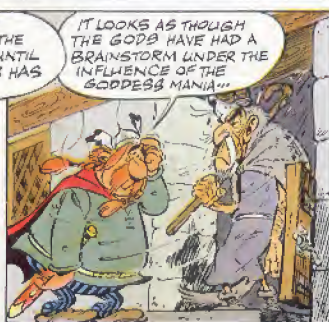
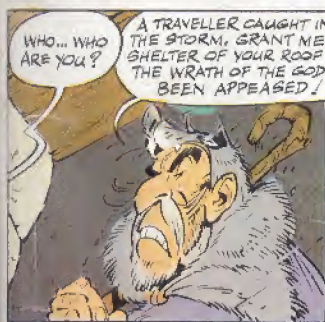
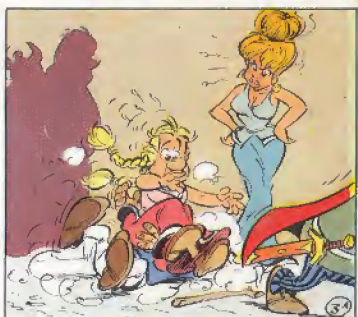
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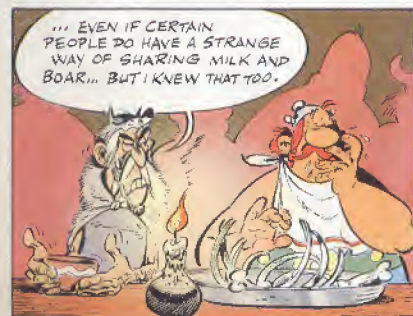
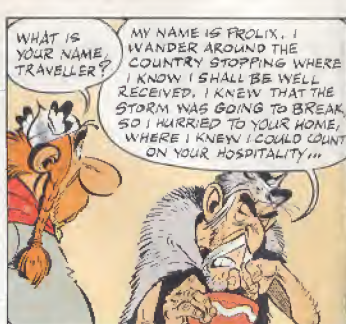
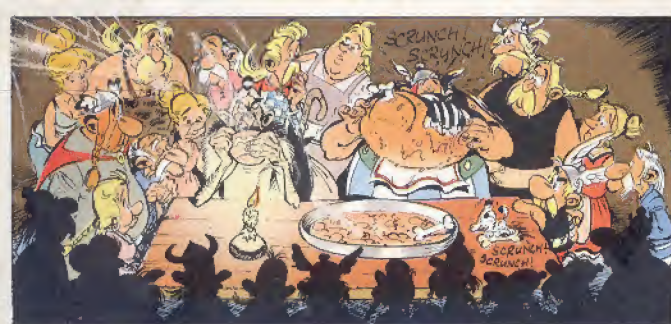
AS YOU CAN SEE, THE GAULS  
ARE CERTAINLY NOT SHORT OF  
GODS, MORE THAN FOUR  
HUNDRED ROB SHOULDERS IN  
THEIR PATRIMONY. THERE ARE GODS  
FOR EVERYTHING: TREES, GRADES,  
RIVERS, IN FACT, THERE ARE A  
MANY THAT WORSHIPERS  
SOMETIMES ADDRESS THEM BY  
CODE NUMBERS TO FACILITATE  
DELIVERY OF THEIR PRAYERS,  
FOR, IN STANCE IN INTELLIGENTSIA, A  
GODS WHOSE SERVICES WERE OFTEN  
HELD IN SECRET, MAY BE FOUND  
UNDER M15.

OBELIX IS RIGHT. STOP WITTERING ON AND LET'S FIND SOMETHING TO DO WHILE WE WAIT FOR THE STORM TO PASS OVER.











ASTERIX'S SCEPTICISM HAS NO EFFECT SUBJECTED TO THE INFLUENCE OF SO MANY GODS, WHO BOTH PROTECT AND THREATEN THEM, THE NATIONS OF ANTIQUITY WOULD LIKE TO HAVE ADVANCE NOTICE OF THEIR WHIMS. HERE WE MUST INSERT A PARENTHESIS...

A PARENTHESIS WHICH IS NECESSARY FOR A BRIEF EXPLANATION OF SOOTHSAYERS' ORACLES, PROPHETS, AUGURERS, HARUSPICES AND OTHER INTERPRETERS OF THE SIBYLLINE BOOKS.



O SOOTHSAYER, WILL THE GODS LOOK KINDLY ON THE HARVEST?

SOOTHSAYERS READ THE FUTURE IN THE WAY BIRDS FLY...

YES, FARMER, THE GODS WILL SEND RAIN FOR YOUR FIELDS!



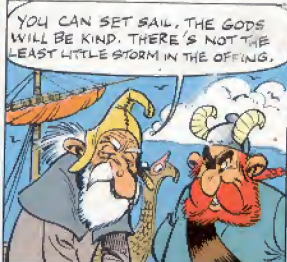
... IN THE APPETITE OF THE SACRED GEESE...

THE GOOSE LIVER PATE WILL BE GOOD THIS YEAR! THE GODS HAVE SPOKEN!



... AND ABOVE ALL IN THE ENTRAILS OF SACRIFICIAL ANIMALS.

YOU CAN SET SAIL, THE GODS WILL BE KIND. THERE'S NOT THE LEAST LITTLE STORM IN THE OFFING.



THE PREDICTIONS OF THE ENTRAILS ARE NOT ALWAYS CORRECT...

I THOUGHT IT WAS JUST A LOAD OF TRIPE!

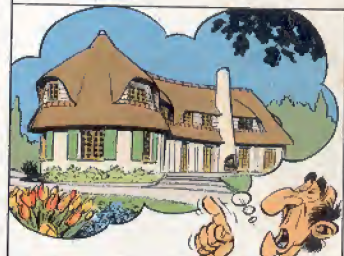


EVEN THE GREATEST CONSULT THE AUGURIES...

... AND AS LONG AS BRUTUS IS NEAR YOU, O CAESAR, YOU WILL HAVE NOTHING TO FEAR!



IF CERTAIN VISIONARIES HAVE A REASONABLE IDEA OF WHAT THE FUTURE HOLDS...



... GENERALLY THEY SAY ANY OLD THING!



IN SHORT, THEY ARE CHARLATANS WHO THRIVE ON CREDULITY, FEAR AND HUMAN SUPERSTITION. HERE WE CLOSE THE PARENTHESIS.

PATEL HILL OF RESIDENCE  
UNRAILY BOOKS





SOOTHSAYER,  
SOOTHSAYER, IS  
THE SKY ABOUT  
TO FALL ON OUR  
HEADS?

I SHOULD NEED  
TO READ THE  
ENTRAILS OF AN  
ANIMAL.

YOU COULD TRY A  
ROAST BOAR.



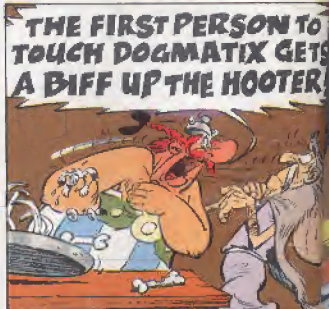
OBELX,  
THERE'S  
NO MORE  
BOAR!

AND NOT MUCH  
READING MATTER  
LEFT IN THAT ONE  
EITHER.



THAT DOG WOULD DO...  
I READ DOGS VERY WELL.

**YELL!**



**THE FIRST PERSON TO  
TOUCH DOGMATIX GETS  
A BIFF UP THE HOOTER!**



WATCH IT! OBELX'S  
PREDICTIONS OFTEN WORK OUT!



TOO BAD! I SHAN'T BE  
ABLE TO TELL YOU WHAT  
THE GODS INTEND.

THE STORM  
IS GETTING  
WORSE!

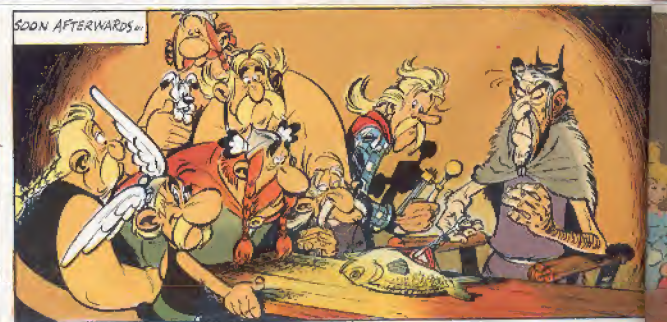


I COULD BRING  
YOU A FISH.  
I SELL THEM.



YES, THAT WOULD DO.  
WE SOOTHSAYERS OFTEN  
GO TO THE FISHMONGER  
TO GET SOMETHING  
TO READ. \*

A TRADITION THAT SURVIVES  
TO THIS DAY, MODERN FISH-  
MONGERS WRAP THEIR  
GOODS IN NEWSPAPERS  
SO THAT CUSTOMERS CAN  
HAVE SOME READING  
MATTER.



SOON AFTERWARDS..



IF GETAFIX WAS HERE HE'D TELL YOU NOT TO BELIEVE THIS IMPOSTOR! YOU SHOULD BE ASHAMED OF YOURSELF!

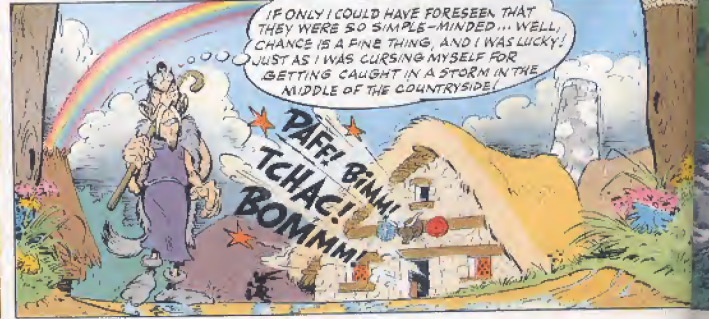
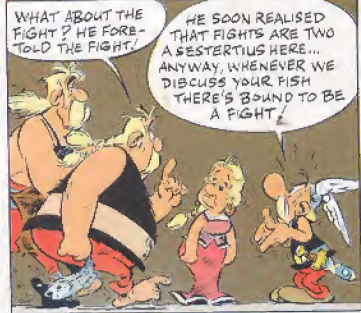
BUT ASTERIX, THE FISH HAS SPOKEN...

SO YOU THINK MY FISH ISN'T VERY FRESH DO YOU?

WELL, NOT TO PUT TOO FINE A POINT ON IT... NOW IT'S BEEN READ YOU SHOULD CLOSE IT UP AND PUT IT BACK ON THE SLAB...

11







**GET OUT!  
EVERYBODY OUT!**



**I SAID:  
EVERYBODY OUT!**



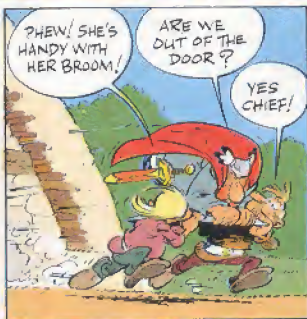
**OUT!**



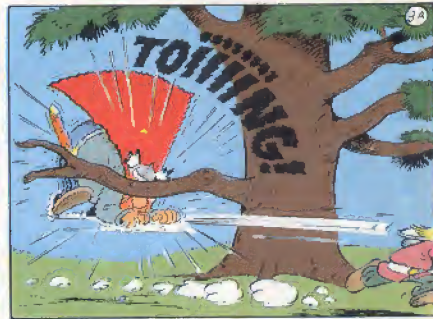
PHEN! SHE'S  
HANDY WITH  
HER BROOM!

ARE WE  
OUT OF THE  
DOOR?

YES  
CHIEF!



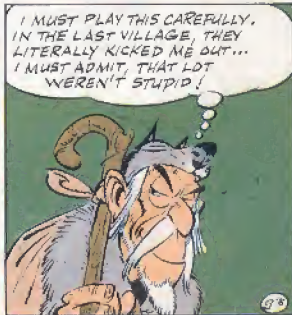
**TOILING!**



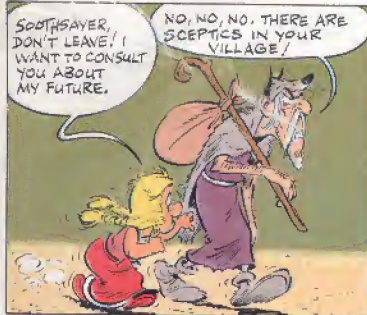
SOOTHSAYER/  
SOOTHSAYER!  
JUST WAIT A  
MINUTE!



I MUST PLAY THIS CAREFULLY.  
IN THE LAST VILLAGE, THEY  
LITERALLY KICKED ME OUT...  
I MUST ADMIT, THAT LOT  
WEREN'T STUPID!







SOOTHSAYER, DON'T LEAVE! I WANT TO CONSULT YOU ABOUT MY FUTURE.

NO, NO, NO. THERE ARE SCEPTICS IN YOUR VILLAGE!



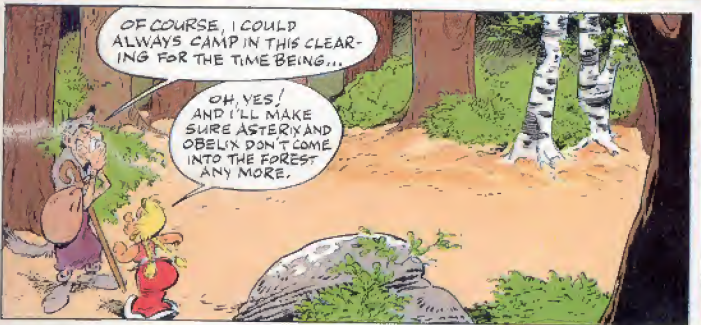
THAT LITTLE MAN WITH THE YELLOW Moustache, AND THE FAT MONSTER WHO WON'T LET ANYONE READ HIS DOG!...

THEY'RE JUST BARBARIANS... YOU MUSTN'T TAKE ANY NOTICE OF THEM. PLEASE STAY!



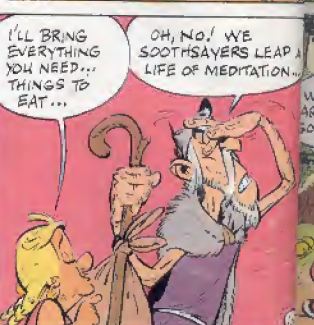
I FORESEE DIFFICULTIES WITH YOUR BARBARIANS IF I GO BACK TO THE VILLAGE. CAN'T YOU GET THOSE TWO THROWN OUT?

THROW OUT ASTERIX AND OBELIX? WE COULDN'T DO THAT!



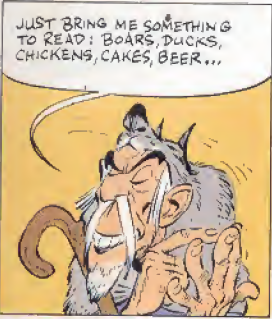
OF COURSE, I COULD ALWAYS CAMP IN THIS CLEARING FOR THE TIME BEING...

OH, YES! AND I'LL MAKE SURE ASTERIX AND OBELIX DON'T COME INTO THE FOREST ANY MORE.



I'LL BRING EVERYTHING YOU NEED... THINGS TO EAT...

OH, NO! WE SOOTHSAYERS LEAD A LIFE OF MEDITATION...



JUST BRING ME SOMETHING TO READ: BOARS, DUCKS, CHICKENS, CAKES, BEER...



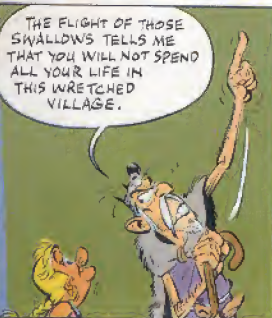
CAN YOU READ BEER TOO?

IF IT'S WELL KEPT, IT BECOMES VERY LEGIBLE.



YOU CAN HAVE ALL THAT, BUT JUST TELL ME WHAT THE GODS HAVE IN STORE FOR ME...

HMMMM...



THE FLIGHT OF THOSE SWallows TELLS ME THAT YOU WILL NOT SPEND ALL YOUR LIFE IN THIS WRETCHED VILLAGE.



BUT MY HUSBAND IS THE CHIEF!

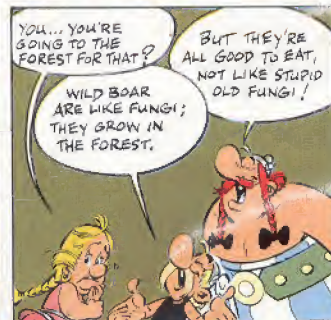
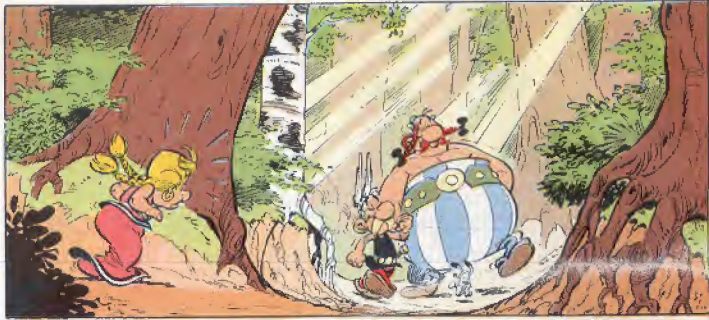
HE WILL BE CALLED TO HIGHER THINGS... I SHALL NEED CUSHIONS AS WELL...



WILL MY RICH BROTHER HOMEOPATHIX TAKE HIM ON AS A BUSINESS PARTNER IN LUTETIA?

I WAS JUST GOING TO SAY SO! NOW LEAVE ME. I MUST MEDITATE! GET GGGY









SINCE OUR DRUID, WHO MAKES THE MAGIC POTION, IS AWAY, WE MUST LOOK AFTER THEM... THE ROMANS COULD ATTACK THE VILLAGE ANY TIME, PIGGYWIGGY...



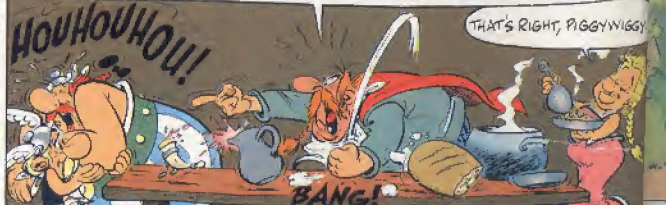
HUH! THE ROMANS ARE LYING LOW AT THE MOMENT... YOU NEVER KNOW WITH THEM, PIGGYWIGGY. ASTERIX AND OBELIX SHOULDN'T LEAVE THE VILLAGE TO GO INTO THE FOREST.



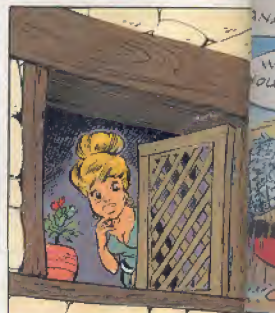
BUT WE LIKE GOING INTO THE FOREST!



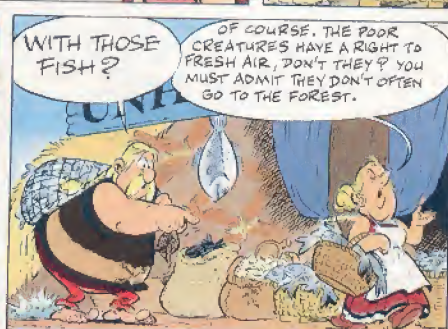
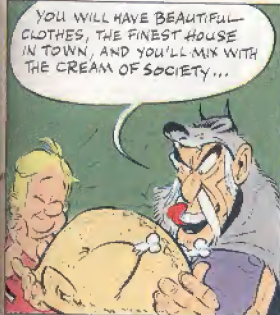
OH, SO YOU LIKE GOING INTO THE FOREST, DO YOU? WELL, YOU CAN JUST STAY AND GUARD THE VILLAGE! THAT'S AN ORDER!



YOU CAN EAT HERE EVERY DAY, AND THAT WAY I'LL BE ABLE TO WATCH... ER, LOOK AFTER YOU. IF THESE IDIOTS ARE GOING TO COME HERE EVERY DAY, THEY'LL HAVE TO CUT OUT THE LAUGHTER!









THE NEXT DAY...

APPARENTLY YOU  
READ MY FISH AND TOLD  
MY WIFE IT WOULD HAVE  
A WIDE CIRCULATION!  
SHALL I HAVE A CHAIN  
OF FISHMONGERS  
SHOPS?

THAT'S RIGHT,  
FOR MORE DETAILS,  
I SHALL HAVE TO  
READ GOLD.

WOULD  
SESTERTII DO?

YES, BUT DON'T  
FORGET THE  
OFFICIAL RATE OF  
EXCHANGE: ONE  
HUNDRED SESTERTII  
TO THE AUKRUS!

\* GOLD COIN.

HALLO! TAKING  
YOUR CHICKENS  
FOR A WALK?

YES...

CLUCK?

WELL, YOUR  
WIFE TAKES HER  
FISHES FOR A WALK.

IDIOT!

FUCK!

ER... I'M JUST  
GOING FOR A DRINK  
IN THE FOREST...

THERE ARE  
SOME FUNNY  
GOINGS-ON  
HERE...

WHAT'S GOING ON  
IS THEY'RE ALL MAKING  
FOR THE FOREST, AND  
THEY'RE HAPPY, AND HERE'S  
ME BORED TO TEARS WITH  
NOTHING TO DO!

IT'S THE CLOSE SEASON FOR  
MENHRS, AND DOGMATIX IS PINING  
FOR SOME TREES!...

WHERE ARE  
YOU GOING?

SOME PEOPLE TAKE THEIR FISHES  
OR THEIR CHICKENS FOR A WALK, I  
TAKE MY DOG! SO SUCKS TO  
PIGGYWIGGY!



THIS MAKES A  
NICE CHANGE FROM  
THE VILLAGE, DOESN'T  
IT, DOGMATIX?

WOOF!  
WOOF!

LET'S LOOK FOR SOME  
BOARDS. THEY MUST BE  
WORRIED, NOT SEEING US  
FOR SO LONG...

ATTABOY,  
DOGMATIX! ATTABOY!

SNIFF,  
SNIFF,  
SNIFF!

?!?

YELLP!

THERE, THERE, DON'T BE AFRAID... WHAT  
DID YOU SEE OVER THERE? WE'RE THE ONES  
WHO FRIGHTEN PEOPLE!

SURE ENOUGH...

?!?

THE MONSTER!

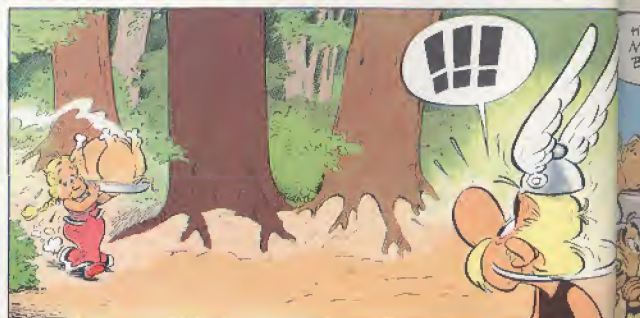
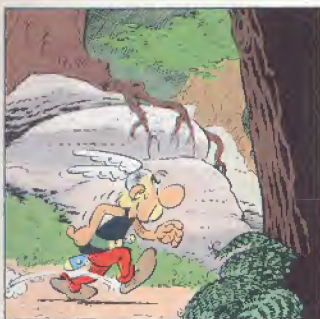
THE DOG  
READER!

YOU KNOW  
ASTERIX TOLD YOU  
NOT TO STAY HERE!  
COME DOWN, OR  
I'LL PULL THE  
TREE UP!

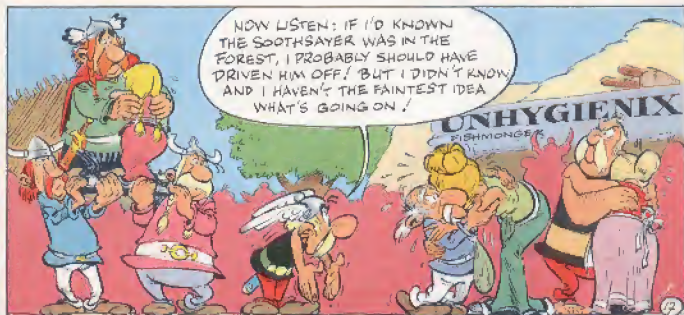
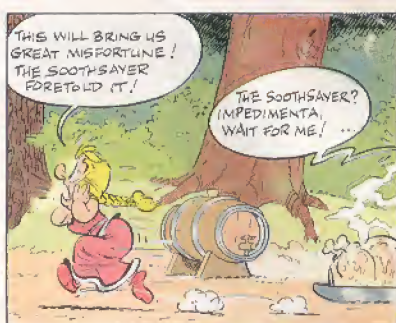
I SEE A BLONDE  
GIRL... A VERY PRETTY,  
YOUNG, BLONDE GIRL...  
WHO LOVES GREAT  
WARRIORS WITH  
RED ? TAILS...

PIGTAILS?











THE EXPLANATION IS TO BE FOUND AT THIS VERY MOMENT, IN THE FORTIFIED ROMAN CAMP OF COMPENDIUM...



AVE, CENTURION VOLUPTUOUS ARTERIOSCLEROSUS!

AVE, LET'S HAVE YOUR REPORT.

BONK!

ON PROCEEDING ON PATROL, FOR WHICH YOU GAVE THE ORDERS TO PROCEED WITH, WE FOUND THIS 'ERE INDIVIDUAL IN A CLEARING, AND AFTER A CAUTION HE MADE A STATEMENT WHAT WE WERE NOT VERY SATISFIED WITH.



ARE YOU ONE OF THOSE CRAZY GAULS WHO STILL HOLD OUT AGAINST THE INVADERS?

ME? OH, NO, NO! I DON'T HOLD OUT AGAINST ANYONE!

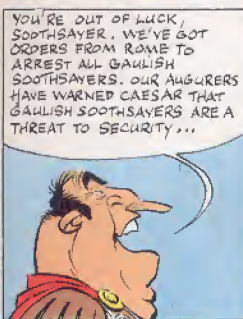


I'M JUST A SOOTHSAYER.

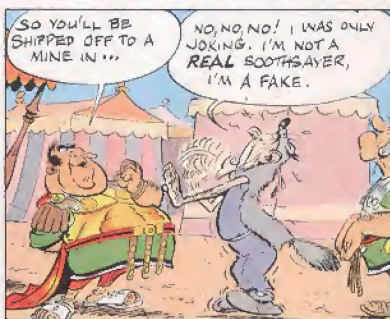


A SOOTHSAYER? ARE YOU A REAL GAULISH SOOTHSAYER?

OF COURSE... WAIT... I FORESEE THAT YOU WILL BE PROMOTED.



YOU'RE OUT OF LUCK, SOOTHSAYER. WE'VE GOT ORDERS FROM ROME TO ARREST ALL GAULISH SOOTHSAYERS. OUR AUGURERS HAVE WARNED CAESAR THAT GAULISH SOOTHSAYERS ARE A THREAT TO SECURITY...



SO YOU'LL BE SHIPPED OFF TO A MINE IN...

NO, NO, NO! I WAS ONLY JOKING. I'M NOT A REAL SOOTHSAYER, I'M A FAKE.



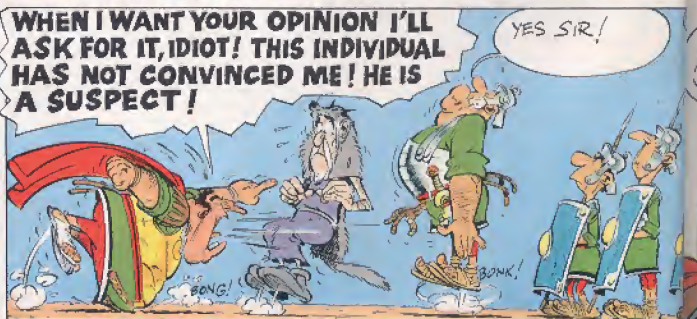
I TAKE ADVANTAGE OF PEOPLE'S CREDULITY TO LIVE WITHOUT WORKING...

BUT YOU JUST FORETOLD THAT I WOULD BE PROMOTED, ALL THE SAME...



NO, NO, OF COURSE NOT. DON'T BE ABSURD!

JUST WHAT I WAS SAYING...



WHEN I WANT YOUR OPINION I'LL ASK FOR IT, IDIOT! THIS INDIVIDUAL HAS NOT CONVINCED ME! HE IS A SUSPECT!

YES SIR!



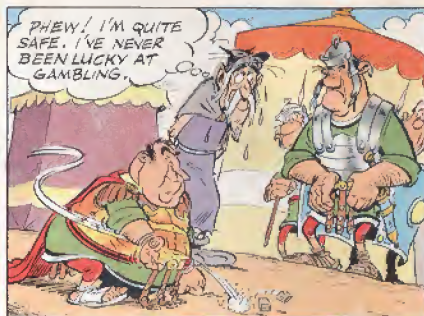


I'M GOING TO TRY YOU OUT TO SEE IF YOU ARE A REAL SOOTHSAYER...

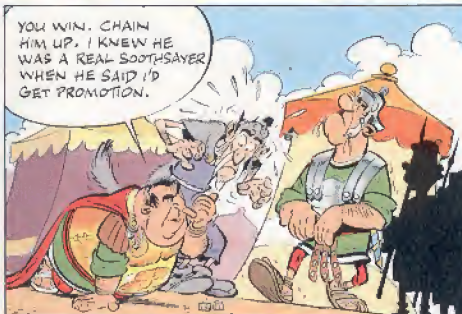


SAY A NUMBER BETWEEN I AND XII

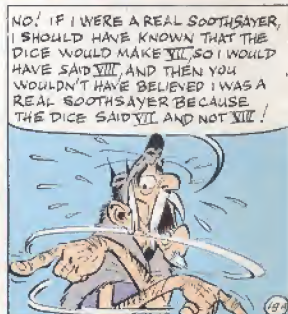
ER... VII



PHIEW! I'M QUITE SAFE. I'VE NEVER BEEN LUCKY AT GAMBLING.



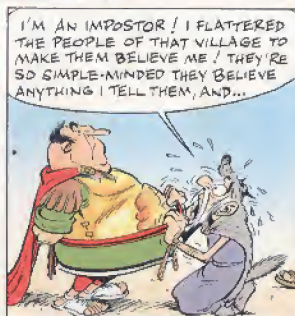
YOU WIN. CHAIN HIM UP. I KNEW HE WAS A REAL SOOTHSAYER WHEN HE SAID I'D GET PROMOTION.



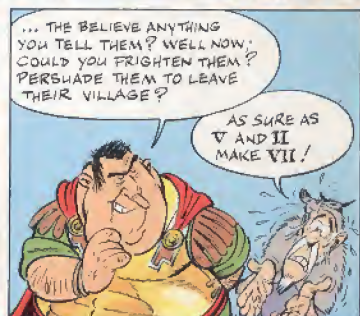
NO! IF I WERE A REAL SOOTHSAYER, I SHOULD HAVE KNOWN THAT THE DICE WOULD MAKE XII, SO I WOULD HAVE SAID VIII, AND THEN YOU WOULDN'T HAVE BELIEVED I WAS A REAL SOOTHSAYER BECAUSE THE DICE SAID VII AND NOT XII!



O CENTURION, I DIDN'T UNDERSTAND A WORD HE JUST SAID. DO WE LOCK HIM UP?

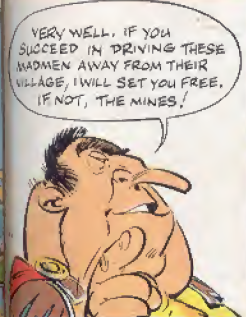


I'M AN IMPOSTOR! I FLATTERED THE PEOPLE OF THAT VILLAGE TO MAKE THEM BELIEVE ME! THEY'RE SO SIMPLE-MINDED THEY BELIEVE ANYTHING I TELL THEM, AND...

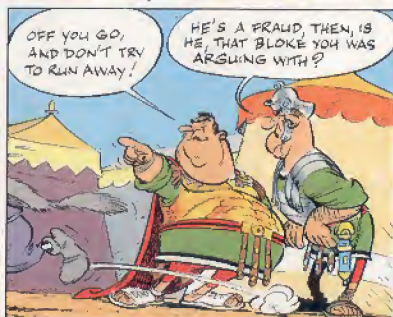


... THE BELIEVE ANYTHING YOU TELL THEM? WELL NOW, COULD YOU FRIGHTEN THEM? PERSUADE THEM TO LEAVE THEIR VILLAGE?

AS SURE AS V AND II MAKE VII!



VERY WELL. IF YOU SUCCEED IN DRIVING THESE WADMEN AWAY FROM THEIR VILLAGE, I WILL SET YOU FREE. IF NOT, THE MINES!



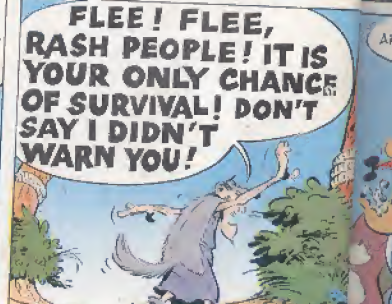
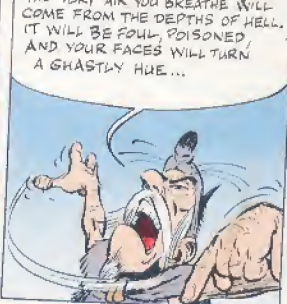
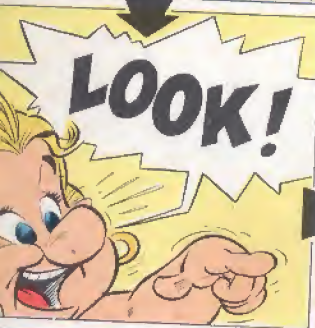
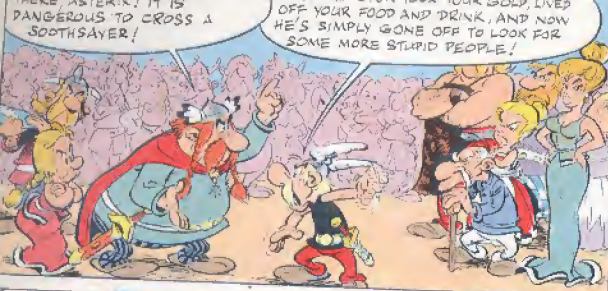
OFF YOU GO, AND DON'T TRY TO RUN AWAY!

HE'S A FRAUD, THEN, IS HE, THAT BLOKE YOU WAS ARGUING WITH?

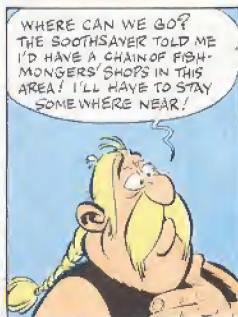
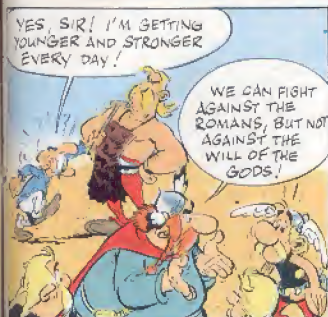
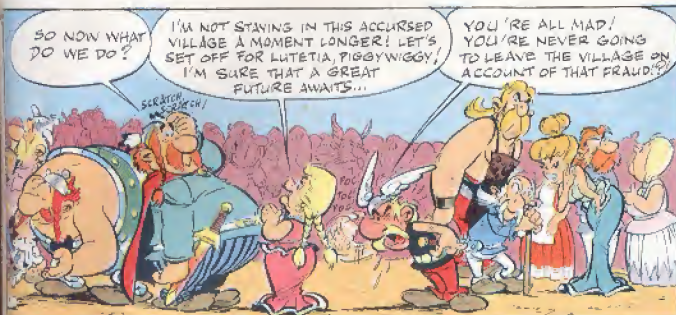


NO, NO! HE'S A REAL SOOTHSAYER, BUT HE'S GOING TO WORK FOR US!

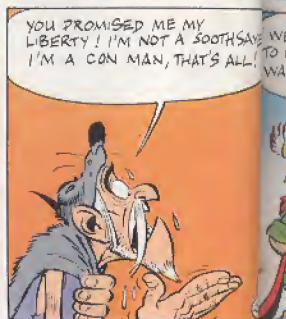
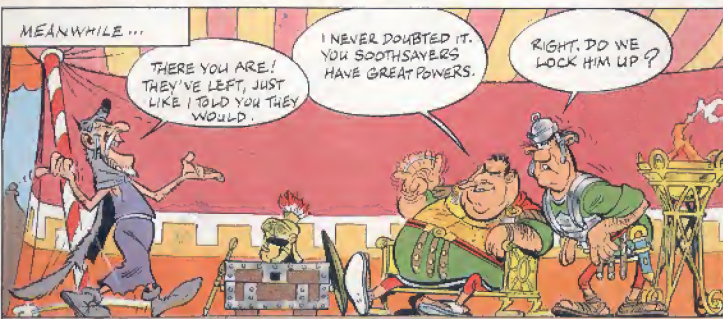






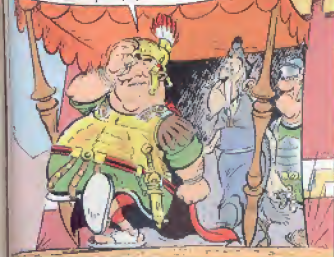








LET'S GO OFF TO THE VILLAGE AND CHECK UP ON THESE STATEMENTS OF YOURS.



...SO THEN I GOT THE IDEA OF GOING ON ABOUT THE FOUL AIR, BECAUSE, YOU SEE, I LIVE NEAR A TANNERY IN LUTETIA, SO...

OH, SO IT WASN'T A GENUINE PREDICTION?



I CAN'T MAKE ANY GENUINE PREDICTIONS! IF I COULD HAVE FORESEEN HOW THIS WAS GOING TO TURN OUT I'D HAVE STAYED AT HOME NEXT DOOR TO THAT TANNERY!



SSH... WE'RE NEAR THE VILLAGE... ALL SEEMS QUIET, BUT YOU NEVER KNOW WITH THOSE GAULS!



WE NEED A SCOUT TO GO ON AHEAD. I WANT A VOLUNTEER.

SIR!



AND YOU CAN TAKE THE SOOTHSAYER WITH YOU.

I KNEW IT.



I KNOW.

**NO, YOU DON'T! NO YOU DON'T!**

DO WE LOCK HIM UP, THEN?





LOOK, ATERIX! TWO OF THEM HAVE GONE IN. WE'RE NOT GOING TO LET ANY ROMANS TAKE OVER OUR VILLAGE, ARE WE?

THEY'RE ONLY PASSING THROUGH. THAT'S A PROMISE OBELIX!



ALL CLEAR.

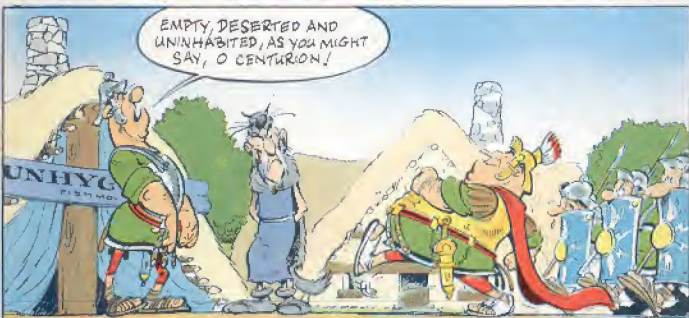
ER...CENTURION... DO YOU THINK THIS IS REALLY WISE? IT COULD BE AN AMBUSH... YOU KNOW WHAT THESE GAULS ARE LIKE...

NO, NO, MY GOOD FELLOW! SOOTHSAYERS ARE NEVER WRONG, YOU KNOW! RIGHT, FORWARD MARCH, IX ABREAST!



THE LIBERATION OF A CITY IS ALWAYS A MOVING EXPERIENCE!

EMPTY, DESERTED AND UNINHABITED, AS YOU MIGHT SAY, O CENTURION!



YOU ARE TO START FOR ROME BEARING A MESSAGE FOR CAESAR. YOU WILL TELL HIM: ALL GAUL IS OCCUPIED. HE WILL ASK "ALL?" YOU WILL REPLY: "ALL!" HE WILL UNDERSTAND.



YOU'LL BE SURE TO GET PROMOTION, SIR, SAME AS THIS ERE SOOTHSAYER WAS SOOTHSAYING!

OF COURSE

NO! NEVER! I NEVER SAID ANY SUCH THING!



OH? AND WHY NOT? HAVE THE GODS SHOWN YOU SOMETHING NASTY IN MY FUTURE THEN?



TELL YOU, DON'T KNOW A THING ABOUT IT!

ANSWER ME, OR I'LL HAVE YOU OPENED UP SO YOU CAN READ YOUR OWN ENTRAILS!



NO! NO! YOU'LL GET PROMOTION ALL RIGHT!

DO WE LOCK HIM UP, THEN?



WE CAN'T LEAVE THEM IN OUR VILLAGE, ASTERIX. LET'S SET THEM THERE, ALL THREE OF US, AND THROW THEM OUT!

NO! WE ARE GOING TO TEACH THEM ALL A LESSON: THE ROMANS, THE SOOTHYSAYER, AND EVEN OUR OWN PEOPLE!

DON'T YOU WORRY, OBELIX. THERE'LL BE ANOTHER BANQUET IN OUR VILLAGE YET! YOU MARK MY WORDS!

HULLO, BOYS! HUNTING BOARS?

## OUR DRUID, GETAFIX!

LOOK AT THAT, BOYS! I WON THE GOLDEN CAULDRON FOR THE DRUID OF THE YEAR AT OUR ANNUAL CONFERENCE IN THE FOREST OF THE CARNUTES!

AND A VERY INTERESTING CONFERENCE IT WAS. THE DRUID STATISTIX HAS BEEN FIGURING OUT SOME FUTURE TRENDS IN OUR PROFESSION...

IS SOMETHING WRONG, BOYS?

I'LL TELL YOU ALL ABOUT IT, O DRUID...

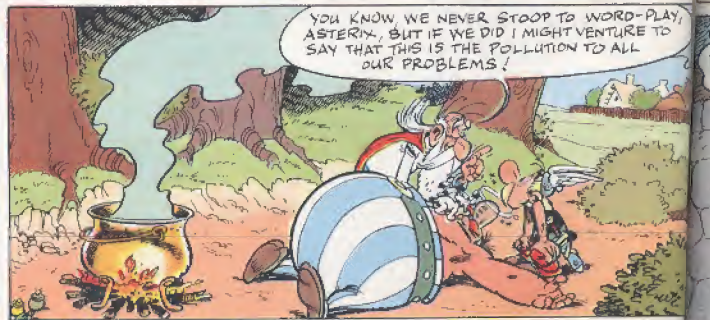
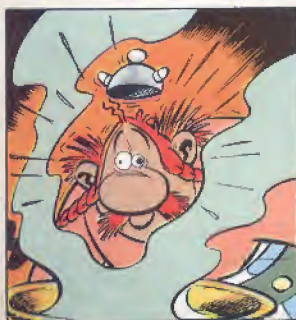
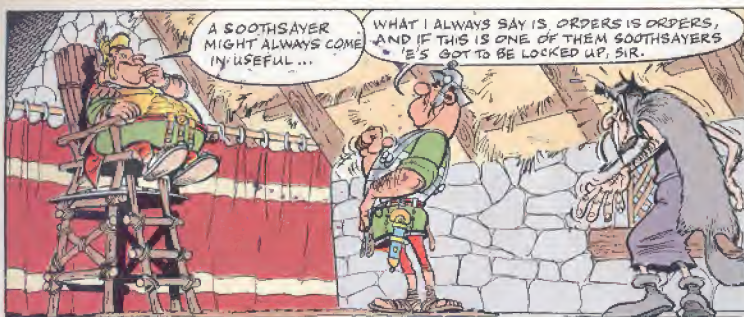
SOON AFTERWARDS...

HMM... FOUL AIR, EH? A GHASTLY HUE, EH?

I BROUGHT A FEW RATHER UNUSING LITTLE INGREDIENTS HOME WITH ME... PASS ME DOWN THAT BEAUTIFUL CAULDRON...

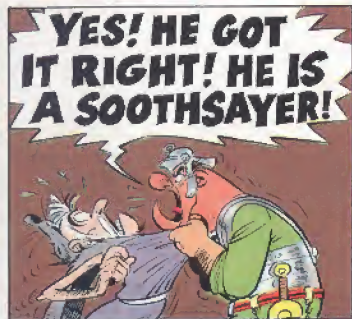
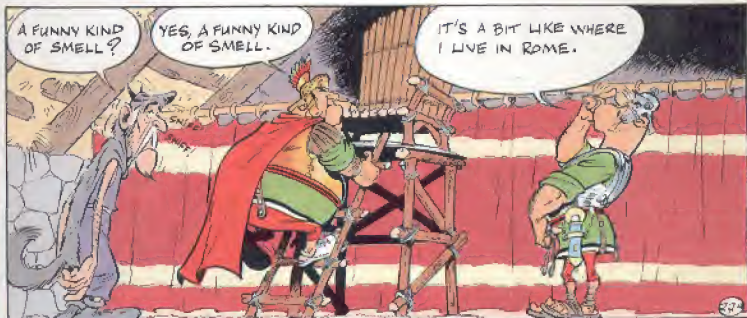
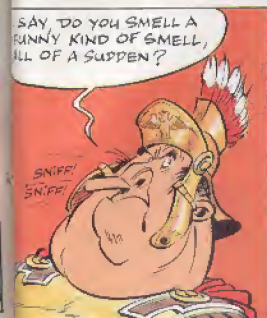
SPLENDID, SPLENDID... THE WIND'S JUST ABOUT TO CHANGE. THERE IS NOT A MOMENT TO LOSE.



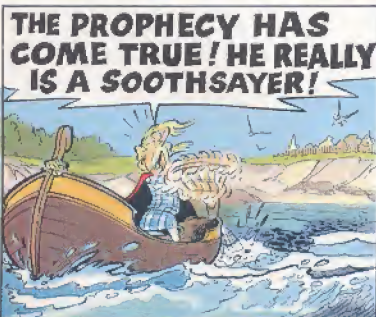
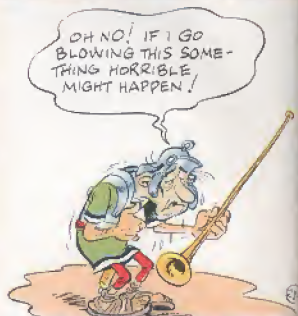
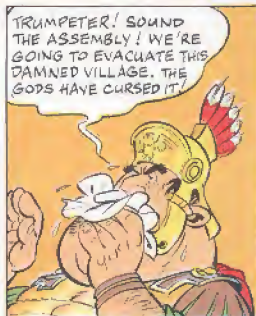
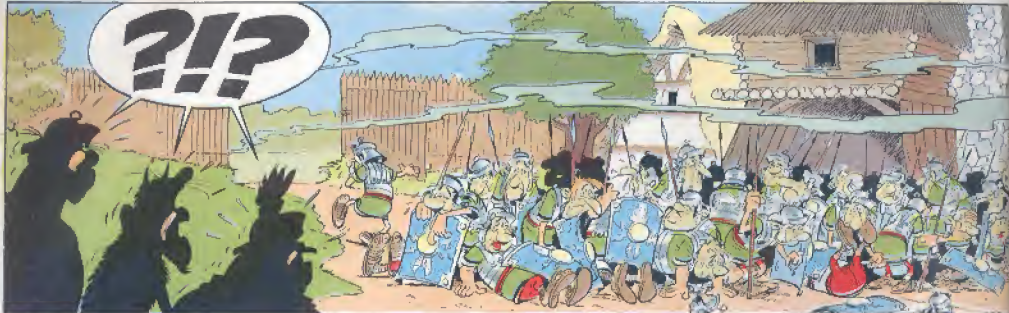




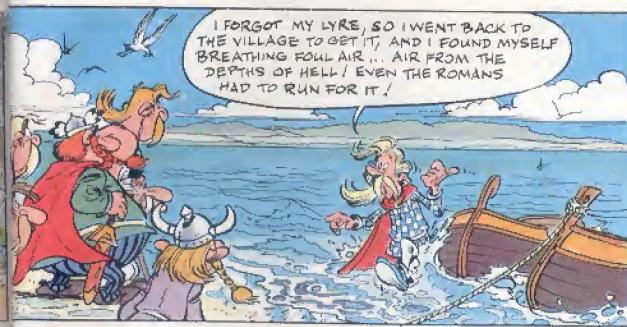
URANUS, THE GOD OF STORMS AND THUNDER IS IN MELLOW MOOD, AND SENDS A GENTLE BREEZE, WAFTING THROUGH THE AIR A SMELL WHICH WAS STILL UNFAMILIAR IN THE YEAR 50 BC...











I FORGOT MY LYRE, SO I WENT BACK TO THE VILLAGE TO GET IT, AND I FOUND MYSELF BREATHING FOUL AIR... AIR FROM THE DEPTHS OF HELL! EVEN THE ROMANS HAD TO RUN FOR IT!

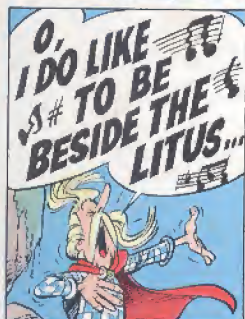


YOU SEE? YOU SEE? WE SHOULD HAVE GONE TO LUTETIA, LIKE THE SOOTH-SAYER SAID! YOU STUPID GREAT BOAR!

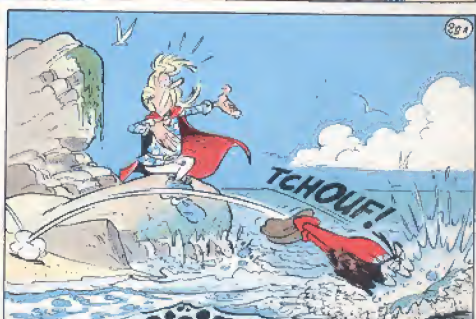
DARLING... AREN'T I YOUR PIGGY WIGGY ANY MORE?



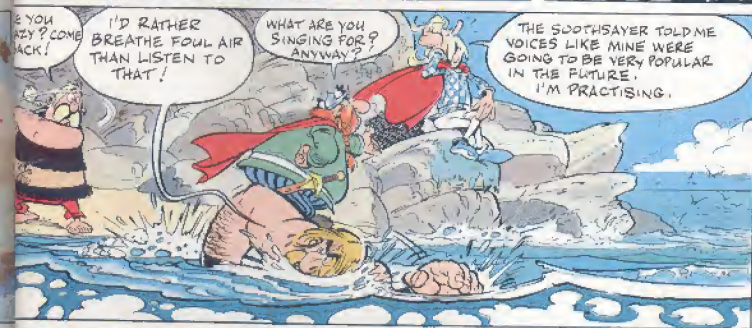
WELL, I'LL JUST HAVE TO DO WITHOUT MY LYRE.



O, I DO LIKE TO BE BESIDE THE LITUS...



TCHOUF!



ARE YOU READY? COME BACK!

I'D RATHER BREATHE FOUL AIR THAN LISTEN TO THAT!

WHAT ARE YOU SINGING FOR? ANYWAY?

THE SOOTH-SAYER TOLD ME VOICES LIKE MINE WERE GOING TO BE VERY POPULAR IN THE FUTURE. I'M PRACTISING.



WELL, ALL WE HAVE TO DO NOW IS WAIT FOR FRESH AIR TO DISPERSE THE BAD SMELL IN THE VILLAGE, AND THEN WE'LL GO AND LOOK FOR OUR FRIENDS...



AND AS FOR THE ROMANS, I'M COUNTING ON YOU. YOU'RE SURE TO THINK OF SOMETHING.

I'VE THOUGHT OF SOMETHING ALREADY. WE GO TO THEIR CAMP AND BASH THE WHOLE PLACE UP.

WHEREVER DO YOU GET ALL THESE ORIGINAL IDEAS?

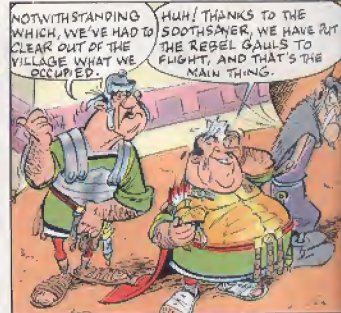
A HANDSOME WARRIOR WITH RED PIGTAILS, YES! BUT I'M NOT JUST A PRETTY FACE!



MEANWHILE ...



PHEW! THAT'S BETTER...  
IN FACT, I'D SAY ALL WAS  
GOING WELL!



NOTWITHSTANDING  
WHICH, WE'VE HAD TO  
CLEAR OUT OF THE  
VILLAGE WHAT WE  
OCCUPIED...  
HUH! THANKS TO THE  
SOOTHSAYER, WE HAVE PUT  
THE REBEL GAULS TO  
FLIGHT, AND THAT'S THE  
MAIN THING.



RIGHT, DO WE  
LOCK HIM UP THIS  
TIME, THEN?

NO!



BUT ORDERS  
IS...

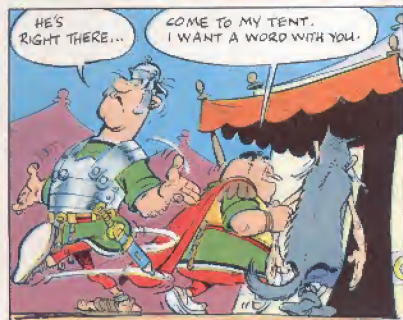
THIS MAN IS A  
FRAUD! THERE IS NO  
REASON FOR US TO  
IMPRISON HIM.



EXCUSING THE  
LIBERTY, SIR, BUT I  
DON'T QUITE GET YOUR  
MEANING...

OF COURSE YOU  
DON'T. THAT'S THE  
KIND OF THING THAT  
MAKES ME A  
CENTURION WHILE  
YOU'RE JUST AN  
OPTIMUS.

\* ADJUTANT.



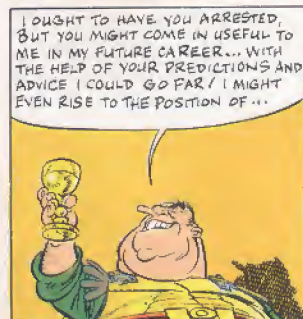
HE'S  
RIGHT THERE...

COME TO MY TENT.  
I WANT A WORD WITH YOU.



WELL, YOU'VE PROVED IT NOW: YOU  
REALLY ARE A SOOTHSAYER. THE GODS  
ARE ANGRY WITH THOSE WHO DOUBTED YOU,  
AND THEY HAVE CURSED THE GAULISH VILLAGE...

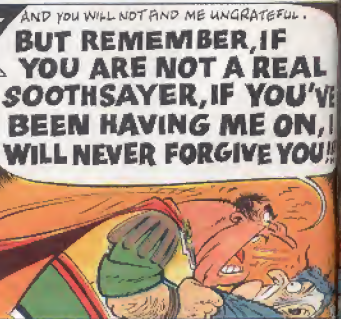
WELL...  
I MUST CONFESS...  
I...



I OUGHT TO HAVE YOU ARRESTED,  
BUT YOU MIGHT HAVE COME IN USEFUL TO  
ME IN MY FUTURE CAREER... WITH  
THE HELP OF YOUR PREDICTIONS AND  
ADVICE I COULD GO FAR! I MIGHT  
EVEN RISE TO THE POSITION OF...

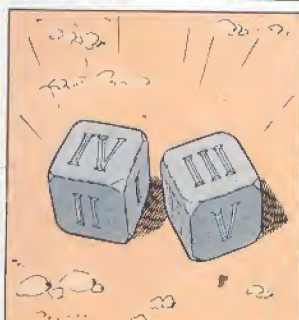
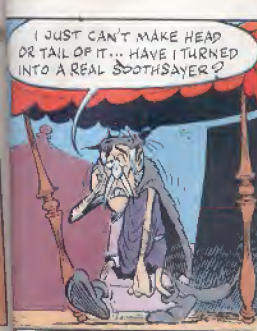


**CAESAR!**



AND YOU WILL NOT AND ME UNGRATEFUL.  
BUT REMEMBER, IF  
YOU ARE NOT A REAL  
SOOTHSAYER, IF YOU'VE  
BEEN HAVING ME ON, I  
WILL NEVER FORGIVE YOU!





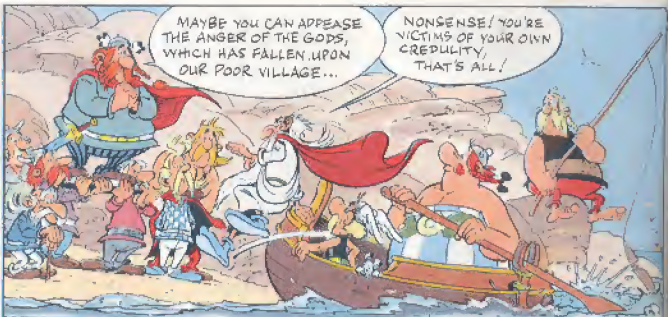


GETAFIX! YOU'RE  
BACK AT LAST!



MAYBE YOU CAN APPEASE  
THE ANGER OF THE GODS,  
WHICH HAS FALLEN UPON  
OUR POOR VILLAGE...

NONSENSE! YOU'RE  
VICTIMS OF YOUR OWN  
CREPULITY,  
THAT'S ALL!



OH WAIT A MINUTE  
GETAFIX! I'VE SEEN  
THE VILLAGE! I'VE  
BREADED THE FOUL AIR  
STRAIGHT FROM THE  
DEPTHS OF HELL! I'VE  
SEEN THE ROMANS  
GO GREEN!

THAT'S RIGHT! OUR  
BARD MAY HAVE A VOICE  
LIKE A SISTRUM\*, BUT  
HE DOESN'T TELL  
LIES.

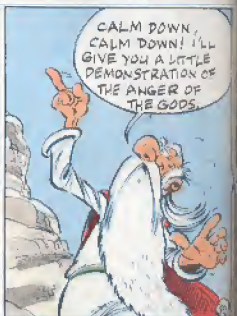
\*A KIND OF METAL  
RATTLE.



**YOU KNOW WHAT  
YOUR BARD HAS TO  
SAY TO YOU IN HIS  
VOICE LIKE A  
SISTRUM?**



CALM DOWN,  
CALM DOWN! I'LL  
GIVE YOU A LITTLE  
DEMONSTRATION OF  
THE ANGER OF  
THE GODS.



OBELIX! EMPTY  
THAT CAULDRON  
AND...



...BRING IT OVER  
HERE.

THERE  
YOU ARE!

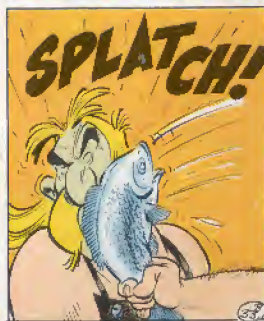


SOON AFTERWARDS...

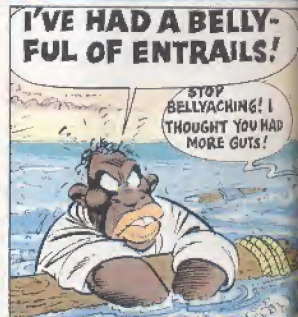
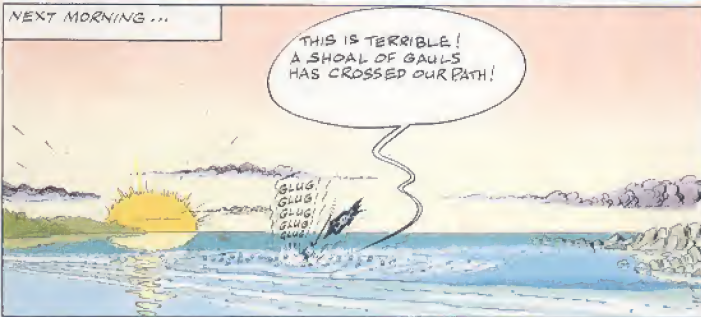
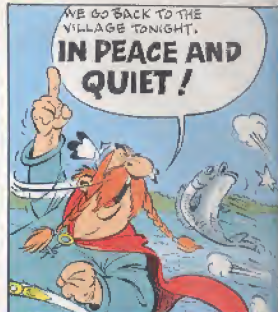
VERY GOOD! NOW, ALL  
OF YOU GO OVER THERE,  
THE WAY THE WINDS  
BLOWING.



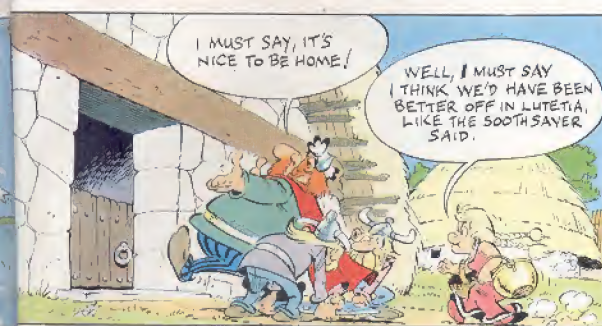












I MUST SAY, IT'S  
NICE TO BE HOME!

WELL, I MUST SAY  
I THINK WE'D HAVE BEEN  
BETTER OFF IN LUTETIA,  
LIKE THE SOOTHSAYER  
SAID.



BUT HE WASN'T  
REALLY A  
SOOTHSAYER!

WHAT MAKES  
YOU SO SURE?



I'VE BEEN TALKING TO  
GERIATRIK'S WIFE AND TO  
BACTERIA, AND THEY'RE NOT  
CONVINCED. THAT'S WHY I  
THOUGHT LUTETIA MIGHT  
BE THE PLACE...

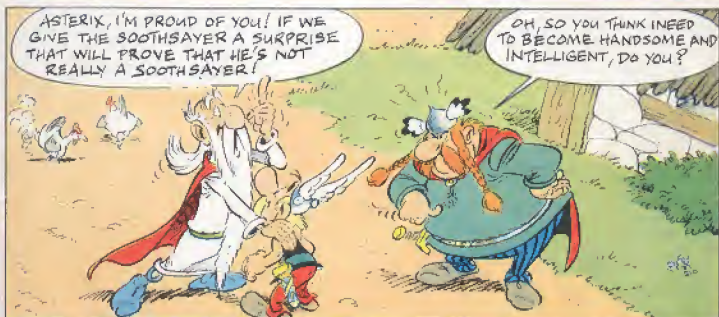


GETAFIX, THE  
WOMEN AREN'T  
CONVINCED THAT  
HE'S A FRAUD...

OF COURSE THEY'RE NOT.  
HE ONLY FORETOLD PLEASANT  
THINGS FOR THEM, SUCH  
AS THEIR HUSBANDS  
BECOMING HANDSOME  
AND INTELLIGENT...



SUPPOSE WE GAVE  
THAT SOOTHSAYER  
A SURPRISE?



ASTERIX, I'M PROUD OF YOU! IF WE  
GIVE THE SOOTHSAYER A SURPRISE  
THAT WILL PROVE THAT HE'S NOT  
REALLY A SOOTHSAYER!

OH, SO YOU THINK I NEED  
TO BECOME HANDSOME AND  
INTELLIGENT, DO YOU?



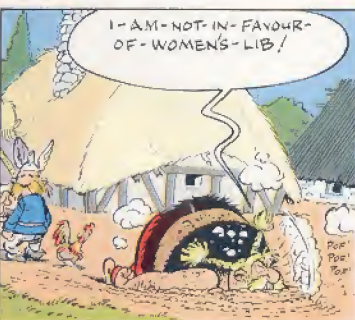
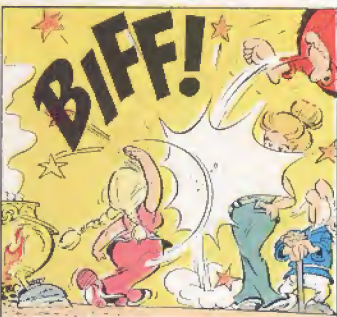
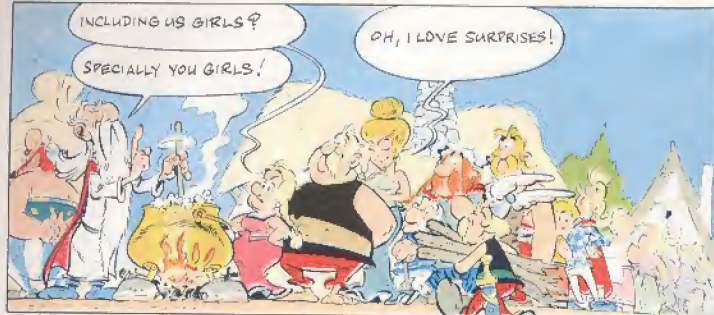
YOU ARRANGE A LITTLE  
SURPRISE, ASTERIX! I'M OFF  
TO MAKE SOME MAGIC  
POTION!



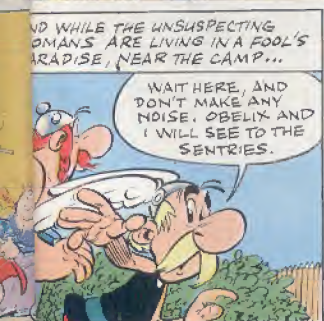
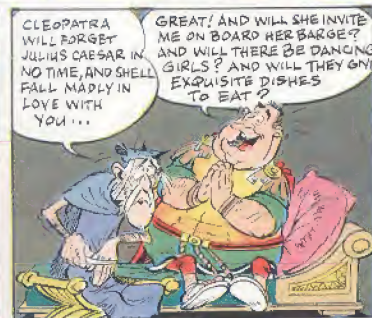
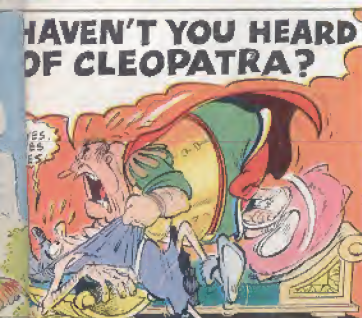
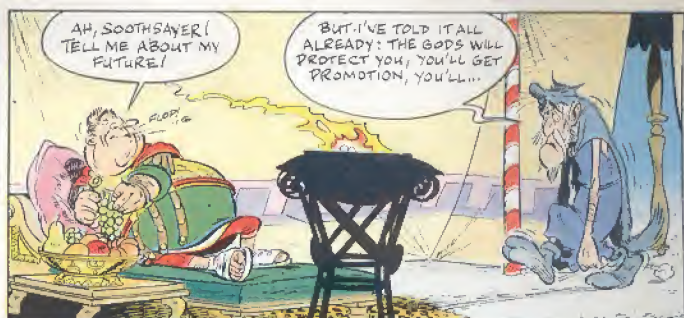
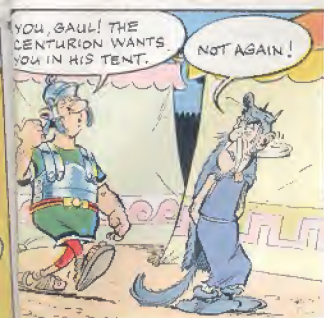
SOON AFTERWARDS...

WELL, ARE WE ALL AGREED?  
IF THE SOOTHSAYER DOESN'T  
GUESS WHAT'S IN STORE FOR HIM,  
WILL YOU BELIEVE THAT HE ISN'T  
A REAL SOOTHSAYER?

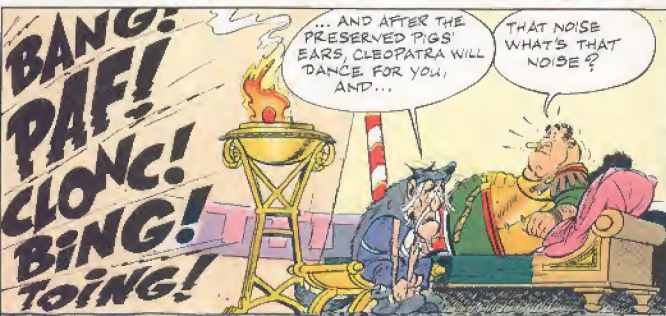
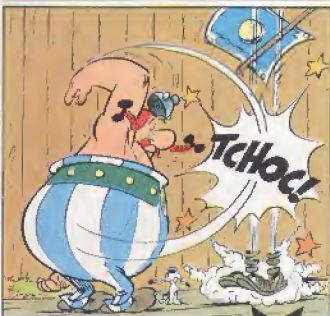














# THE GAULS!!!



**GAULS INSIDE  
THE CAMP, AND  
YOU DIDN'T  
WARN ME??!**

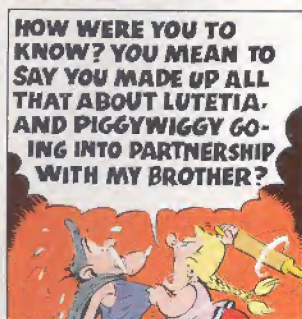
BUT HOW  
WAS I TO  
KNOW?



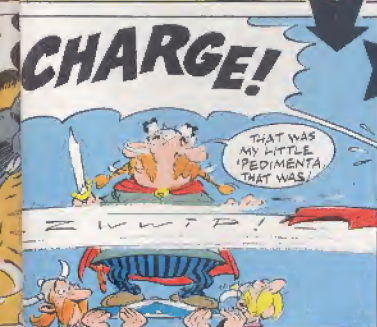
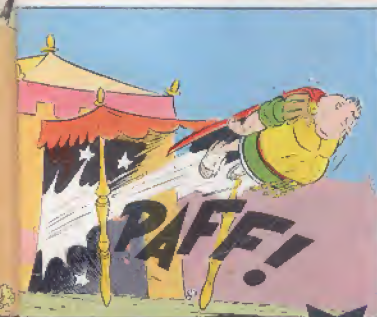
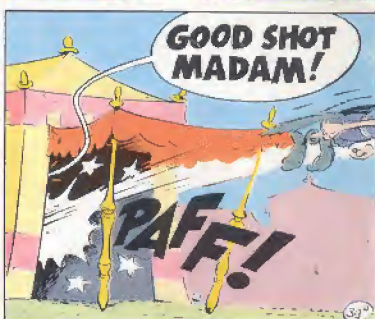
LEAVE HIM TO ME!



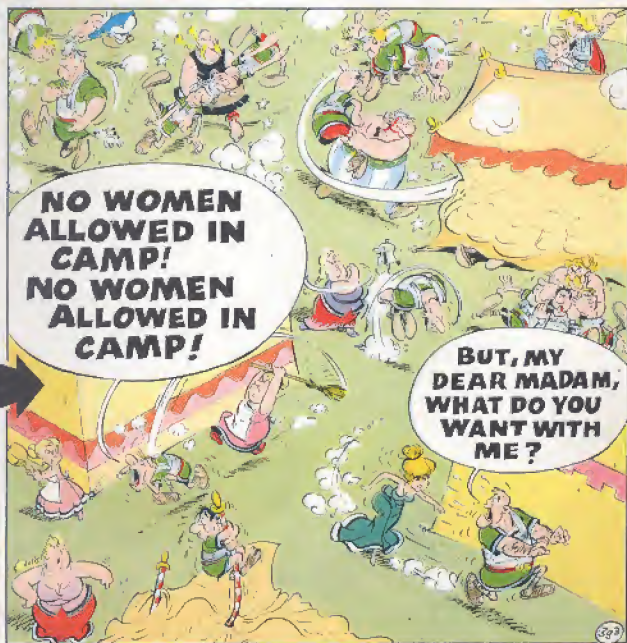
**HOW WERE YOU TO  
KNOW? YOU MEAN TO  
SAY YOU MADE UP ALL  
THAT ABOUT LUTETIA,  
AND PIGGYWIGGY GO-  
ING INTO PARTNERSHIP  
WITH MY BROTHER?**



**GOOD SHOT  
MADAM!**

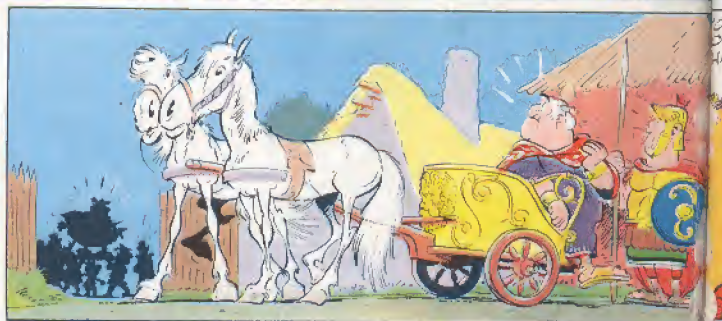


**NO WOMEN  
ALLOWED IN  
CAMP!  
NO WOMEN  
ALLOWED IN  
CAMP!**

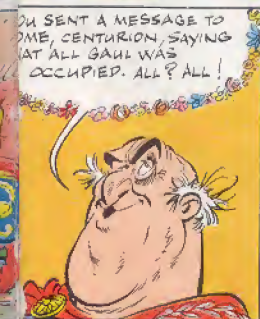


**BUT, MY  
DEAR MADAM,  
WHAT DO YOU  
WANT WITH  
ME?**





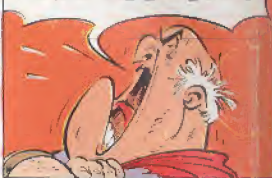








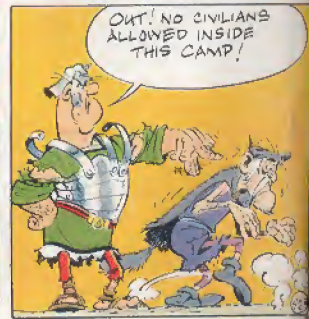
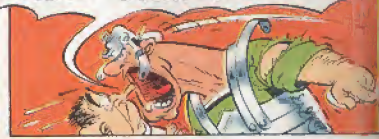
**SILENCE! YOU'RE  
DEMOTED TO  
THE RANKS!**



**OH, SO I'M GOING TO  
GET PROMOTION, AM I?  
OPTIONE,  
ARREST THIS  
IMPOSTOR!**

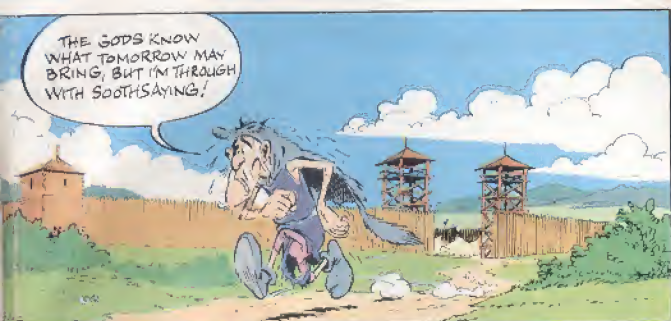


**I DON'T TAKE NO  
ORDERS FROM A  
COMMON LEGIONARY!  
YOU GO AND SWEEP OUT  
THE CAMP! ON YOUR OWN!  
AND NO COMPLAINTS!**

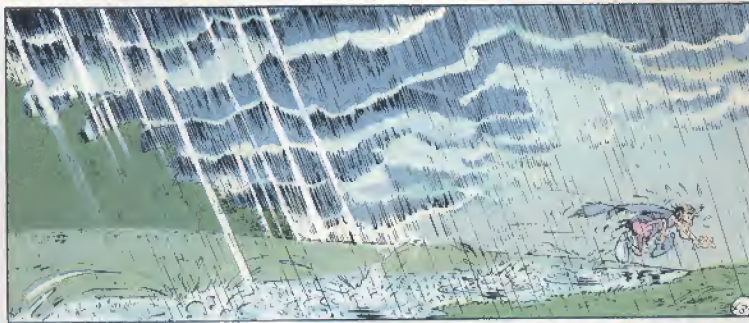




THE GODS KNOW  
WHAT TOMORROW MAY  
BRING, BUT I'M THROUGH  
WITH SOOTHSAYING!



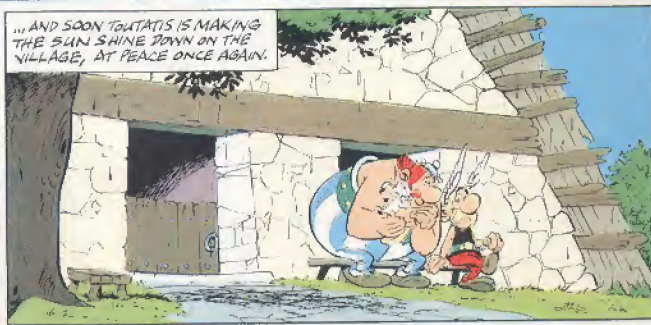
AND IF EVER I CHANGE  
MY MIND, MAY TARANIS MAKE  
THE SKY FALL ON MY HEAD!



HOWEVER, THE ANGER OF  
TARANIS IS SHORT-LIVED...



...AND SOON TOUTATIS IS MAKING  
THE SUN SHINE DOWN ON THE  
VILLAGE, AT PEACE ONCE AGAIN.

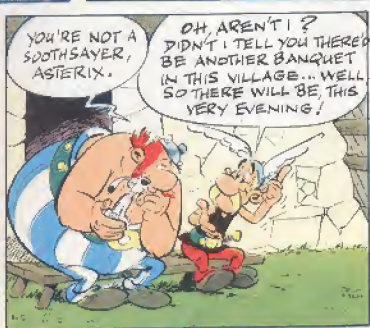


WELL, OBELIX, OLD FRIEND, I  
DON'T KNOW WHAT THE SOOTH-  
SAYER SAID TO YOU, BUT I'M  
SURE YOU'LL BE HAPPY!

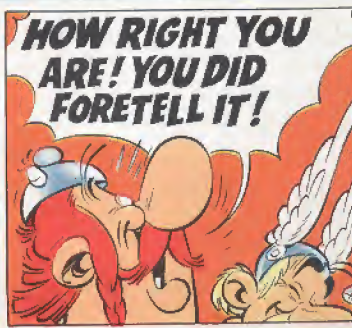


YOU'RE NOT A  
SOOTHSAYER,  
ASTERIX.

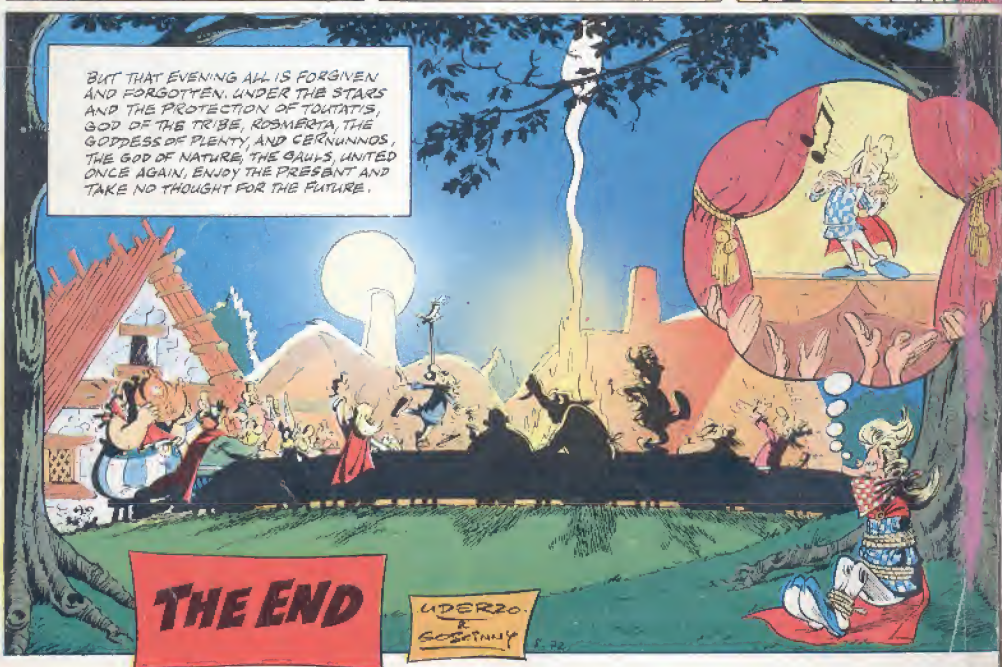
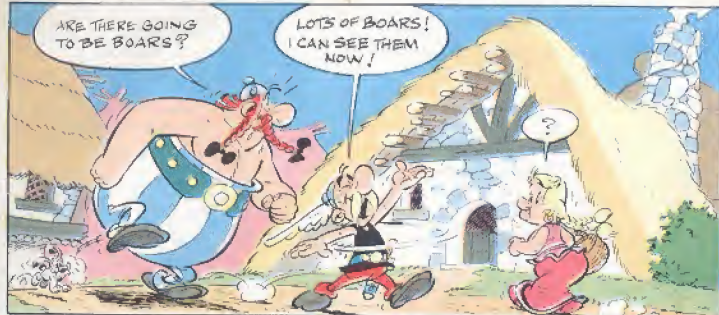
OH, AREN'T I?  
DIDN'T I TELL YOU THERE'D  
BE ANOTHER BANQUET  
IN THIS VILLAGE... WELL  
SO THERE WILL BE THIS  
VERY EVENING!



**HOW RIGHT YOU  
ARE! YOU DID  
FORETELL IT!**







**THE END**

UNDER 20  
2  
GOSNIN